of contracts etc., received from the Indian workers are also taken up by the Mission with the sponsors/employers, Labour Department and local police authorities for appropriate action.

In order to ensure the protection of rights of Indian workers by the host countries, Government of India has entered into bilateral labour MoUs with the UAE and Kuwait. An Additional protocol has been signed with Qatar. MoUs with Oman and Malaysia have been finalized.

Programme for emigrant workers

1101. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to expand the pre-departure orientation and skill upgradation programme for emigrant workers to all State during this current year;

(b) if so, the financial allocation of the Central Government to the State Governments and expected numbers of beneficiaries, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons for not expanding this programme to all States; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed scheme envisages training of 1.60 lakhs potential emigrants at the per capita cost of Rs. 5000/- over a period of five years (2007—2012). The allocation of the State Governments will depend upon the proposals submitted by them in each financial year, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1.00 crore per annum per State Government;

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Complaints against recruiting agencies

1102. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many complaints against recruiting agencies for overseas job opportunities received during the last year by Government are still pending and still no action has been taken on these complaints; and

(b) if so, the details of the complaints and the reasons for the delay in taking action on these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Out of the 167 complaints received against the recruiting agencies during 2006, only 8 complaints are pending for final action. These cases are pending for want of further information from the Indian Missions, non-response of the complainants and pending court cases filed by complainants.

Indian household workers abroad

1103. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning a slew of measures for the benefit of Indians